



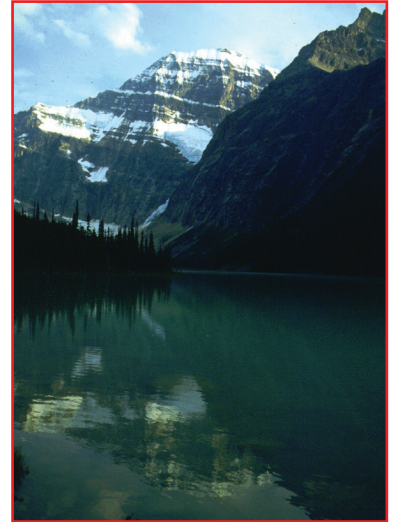
Berg Lake

(Robson Region/Yellowhead Sub-Region)



Moab Lake

(Icefields Region/Upper Athabasca Sub-Region)



Cavell Lake

(Icefields Region/Tonquin Sub-Region)



Princess Lake

(Robson Region/North Boundary Sub-Region)



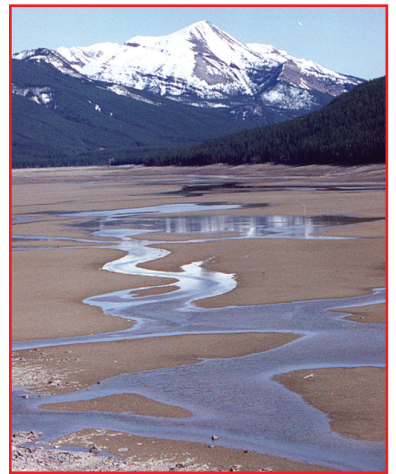
Medicine Lake

(Jasper Region/Maligne Sub-Region)



Amethyst Lakes

(Icefields Region/Tonquin Sub-Region)



Medicine Lake

(Jasper Region/Maligne Sub-Region)



Saturday Night Lake

(Jasper Region/Miette Sub-Region)



Moose River

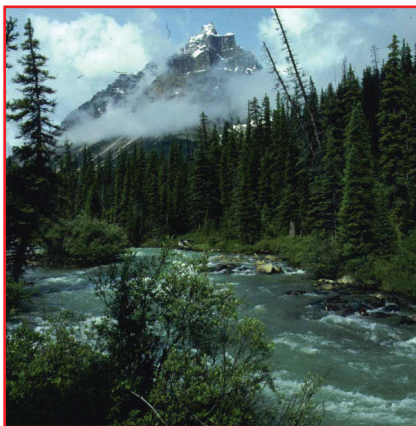
(Robson Region/Yellowhead Sub-Region)



Rainbow trout

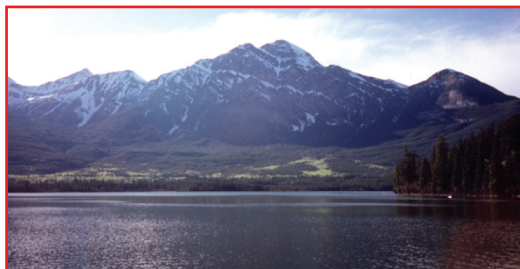
(Maligne Lake/Jasper Region)

Robin Campbell photo



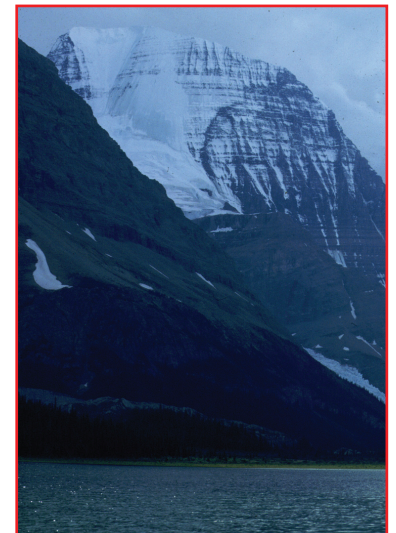
Astoria River

(Icefields Region/Tonquin Sub-Region)



Pyramid Lake

(Jasper Region/Skyline Sub-Region)

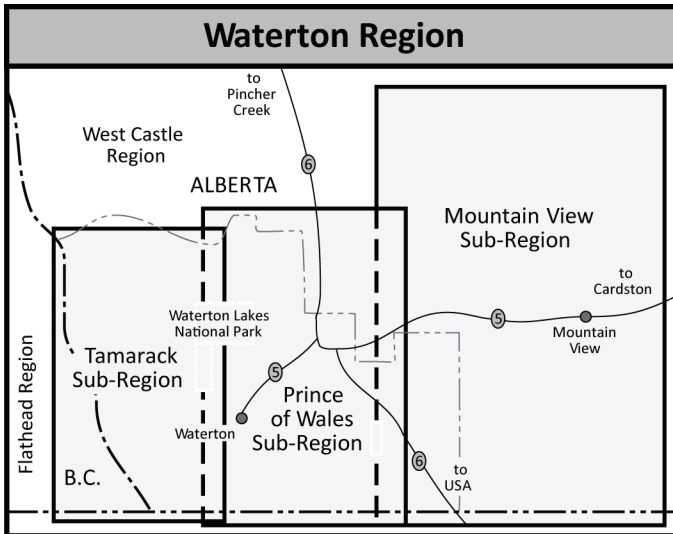


Adolphus Lake

(Robson Region/Yellowhead Sub-Region)

WATERTON REGION

Each year hundreds of thousands of tourists flock to Waterton Lakes National Park to take in the magnificent scenery. In addition to its scenery, the area in and around the park offers excellent fishing opportunities, with the Waterton Lakes and Waterton Townsite serving as the focal point of the Region. The park itself can be reached from Pincher Creek via Highway 6, from Cardston via Highway 5, and from the United States via the Chief Mountain Highway (Highway 6). The Townsite has a major campground, as well as motels, restaurants, gas stations and a variety of tourist-related stores, including stores selling fishing tackle and offering current fishing information. The Parks Canada Information Centre (opposite the Prince of Wales Hotel turnoff) and the warden office (in the park compound) are located just east of the Townsite on Highway 5. The Region nicely divides into three Sub-Regions, with the Waterton Lakes being the focal point of the central Prince of Wales Sub-Region. The backcountry surrounding the Tamarack Trail is the westernmost Sub-Region. The rolling hills and grasslands around the small community of Mountain View outside the National Park forms the eastern Sub-Region



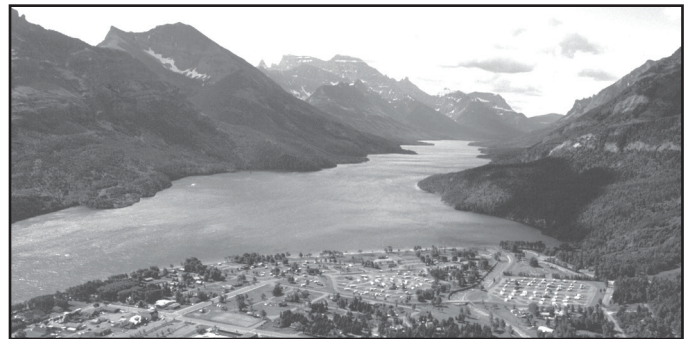
Prince of Wales Sub-Region

All three Waterton Lakes are readily accessible, and are very popular with anglers. Daily boat tours take sightseers down the entire length of Upper Waterton Lake and arrangements can be made with the operators for drop-offs and pick-ups at the Crypt Lake trailhead. From the Townsite, trails branch to Bertha Lake, and to Alderson and Carthew Lakes via the Carthew Trail. Crandell Lake is located at the midway point, by trail, between the Akamina Highway and the Red Rock Canyon Road. The Belly River is noted for its fine stream fishing, and is located in the extreme southeast corner of the park alongside Highway 6.

Waterton Lakes [Upper and Middle] (NP)

- Lake trout to 1.2 m (12.0 kg)*
- Rainbow trout to 65 cm (3.0 kg)*
- Cutthroat trout to 55 cm (1.5 kg)*
- Brook trout to 60 cm (2.5 kg)*
- Bull trout to 75 cm (5.0 kg)*
- Whitefish to 50 cm (1.5 kg)*

The Waterton Lakes are world-renowned for their spectacular beauty, and offer some superb angling for a wide variety of fish. Although the sheer size of the lakes dictate that fishing from a boat will be the most effective method, fishing from shore can be productive from many locations. Areas around the numerous inlet creeks are generally the best waters, with Bertha Bay and Boundary Bay particularly noted for their good fishing. Large lake trout are the main quarry, and they can be caught in sizes upwards of 10 kg. Lake trout are generally caught in the deep waters, by anglers using bait or lures. Whether casting from shore or trolling, rainbow, cutthroat, and brook trout can all be taken from Waterton Lakes. Bull trout, suckers, chub, burbot and the odd northern pike are also taken from the Waterton Lakes. In the fall, whitefish can be taken in good numbers from the Bosphorus, the narrow channel that separates the Upper and Middle Waterton Lakes. Boat rentals are available in Waterton Townsite. Be aware that the Waterton Lakes are known for their strong winds that will keep most small craft off the lakes, and will foil any attempts at fly fishing. Boaters and canoeists should pay particular attention to changing weather conditions, as storms can arrive very quickly.

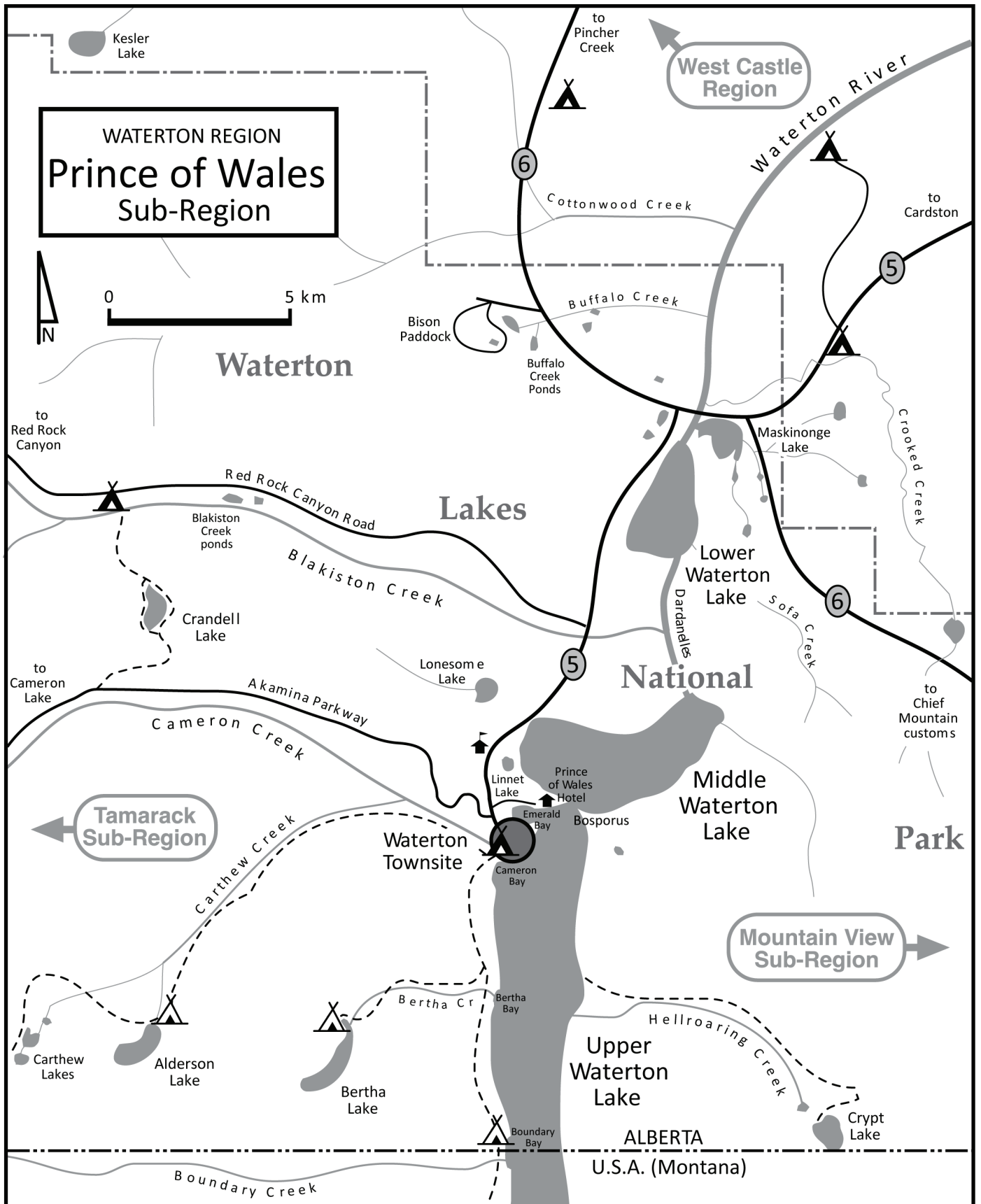


Upper Waterton Lake

Lower Waterton (Knight's) Lake (NP)

- Rainbow trout to 45 cm*
- Cutthroat trout to 45 cm*
- Brook trout to 45 cm*
- Whitefish to 50 cm (1.5 kg)*
- Bull trout to 60 cm (4.0 kg)*
- Lake trout to 80 cm (6.0 kg)*
- Northern pike to 70 cm (5.0 kg)*

Located two kilometres downstream from the outlet of Middle Waterton Lake, Lower Waterton Lake holds virtually the same variety of fish as the upper two lakes. However, since Lower Waterton Lake is much shallower than either Middle or Upper Waterton Lake, very few lake trout are present, while northern pike are more abundant. The inlet and outlet areas have the best potential for anyone fishing from shore.



Maskinonge Lake (NP)

Northern pike to 80 cm (6.0 kg)

Little more than a large slough, the shallow waters of Maskinonge Lake are seldom more than 1 m deep and hold only northern pike. Pike fishing is best in the early season, and fly fishing for pike has become very popular in recent years. Those with a boat will have an advantage over shore-bound anglers due to the extensive reeds around the lake.

Waterton River (NP)

(Waterton Lakes to National Park boundary)

Rainbow trout to 45 cm

Cutthroat trout to 45 cm

Bull trout to 75 cm (5.0 kg)

Whitefish to 35 cm

The Waterton River offers some fine stretches of fishable water as it flows for a short distance between Middle and Lower Waterton Lakes, and then, further downstream, out of Lower Waterton Lake. Particularly good for cutthroat and rainbow trout is the two kilometre section between Middle and Lower Waterton Lakes, called the Dardanelles. The odd pike is taken in the river near Maskinonge Lake. In the fall, whitefish are taken regularly from all stretches of the river.

Crypt Lake (NP)

Cutthroat trout to 60 cm (2.5 kg)

A unique 9 km access trail, which includes a boat crossing of Waterton Lake and a crawl through a 20 m long tunnel, leads to a rocky amphitheatre containing Crypt Lake. The lake's emerald green waters hold large numbers of wary cutthroat trout averaging 30-40 cm in length. If the water is not too choppy from wind, fish can be sighted from most locations around the lake. Due to the clarity of the water, however, the fish are spooked easily. Anglers with a little patience are generally rewarded in Crypt. Simply find a promising-looking location and have a seat. Within minutes a school of trout will cruise by. Fly fishing is the most effective tactic, and backcasting space is available along most of the shoreline. Due to its sheltered position, Crypt usually remains frozen into early July, and ice floes dot the lake for the entire summer.



Crypt Lake

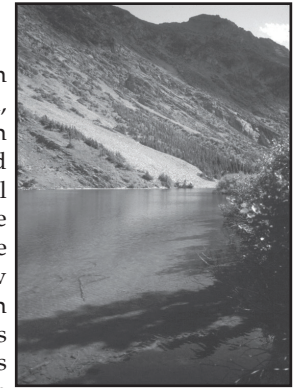
(cutthroat trout)



Bertha Lake (NP)

Rainbow trout to 50 cm (1.5 kg)

Nestled in a hanging valley, 6 km from Waterton Townsite by trail, Bertha Lake is very popular with hikers and anglers. Be forewarned that although the length of the trail is not long, it is very steep over the final few kilometres. Bertha's blue waters hold a fair number of rainbow trout, most averaging 25-30 cm in length. Although fly fishing is usually productive, most of Bertha's shoreline has heavy brush, and those spin casting will be able to fish from more locations. The waters around the logjam at the outlet creek invariably hold fish, regardless of the time of year or time of day.

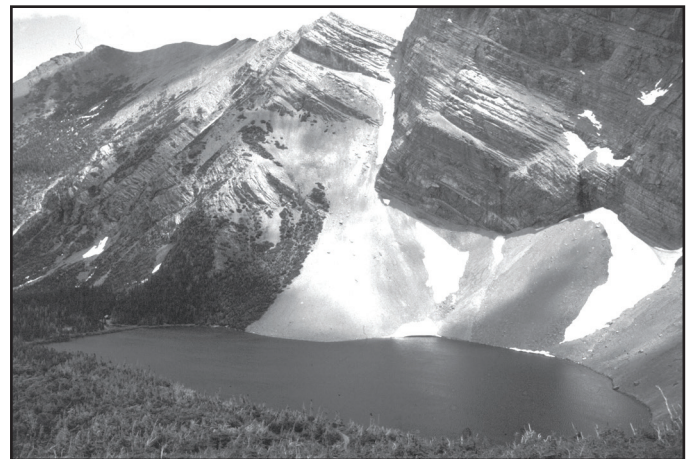


Bertha Lake

Alderson Lake (NP)

Cutthroat trout to 55 cm (2.0 kg)

Alderson Lake sits in a spectacular basin, 8 km from Waterton Townsite along the Carthew Trail. Most hikers bypass Alderson Lake near the end of a long day on their way from Cameron Lake to Waterton Townsite. For those who do make the effort to fish in the beautiful blue waters of Alderson Lake, cutthroat trout averaging 25-35 cm will be the reward. For those fly fishing, roll casting will be necessary from much of the shore, particularly in the deep waters along the scree slopes which form the northwest corner of the lake.



Alderson Lake

Carthew Lakes (NP)

Cutthroat to 50 cm (1.5 kg)

Situated two kilometres beyond and almost 400 vertical metres above Alderson Lake on the Carthew Trail, a windswept alpine basin holds the Carthew Lakes which are comprised of the Upper and Lower Carthew Lakes, plus the diminutive Carthew Pond. Although all three lakes hold cutthroat trout ranging from 20-35 cm., the upper lake at one time contained a few rainbow trout, most of which have now been absorbed into the cutthroat population. The Middle Lake holds the best angling

possibilities, particularly in the bay near the outlet stream, and brightly coloured cutthroat trout can be taken from most locations. The alpine surroundings ensure reasonable fly casting room from most locations, although the strong winds that are very common will hamper fly fishing. Due to their lofty elevation, the lakes are usually frozen and access trails are snowbound into early July.



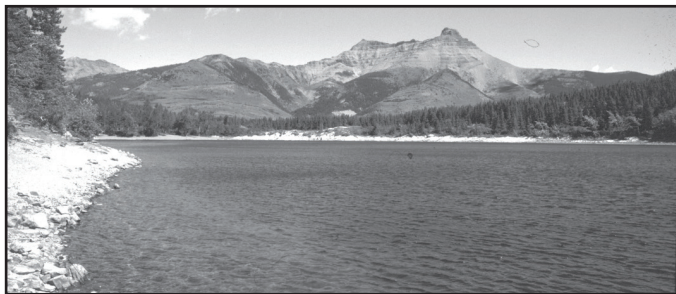
Carthew Lakes

Crandell Lake (NP)

Rainbow trout to 35 cm

Brook trout to 35 cm

Accessible by short hiking trails from both the Akamina Highway and the Red Rock Canyon Road, Crandell Lake's crystal clear waters are a favourite of local anglers, especially in the early season. Both rainbow trout, which predominate, and brook trout are caught from Crandell Lake, most averaging 20-25 cm in length. The open slabs of rock along the northeast shore are the most popular location for angling, although fish can be taken from most locations around the lake.



Crandell Lake

Lonesome Lake (NP)

Status: Devoid of fish

Lonesome Lake is located near the Waterton Golf Course, and at one time contained both rainbow and brook trout, but both species failed to reproduce.

Linnet Lake (NP)

Status: Devoid of fish

Linnet Lake is situated just north of the Waterton Townsite, and was stocked in the past with rainbow, cutthroat and brook trout, all of which failed to take hold. On occasion, when spring flood waters are high enough to connect Linnet Lake and Middle Waterton Lake, a few fish inevitably swim into Linnet and are trapped there when the high water recedes.

Buffalo Creek ponds (NP)

Rainbow trout to 25 cm

Brook trout to 25 cm

This series of beaver dams west of the park gates along Highway 6 contain small rainbow and brook trout. As with most beaver ponds, heavy brush dominates the shoreline and wet feet are a certainty if you want to get a clear cast.

Kesler Lake (NP)

Rainbow trout to 25 cm

Kesler Lake is located along the northern boundary of Waterton Lakes National Park on a tributary of Dungarvan Creek. The shortest access is by ill-defined trail from Yarrow Creek. Seldom fished, Kesler Lake holds rainbow trout in smaller sizes.

Tamarack Sub-Region

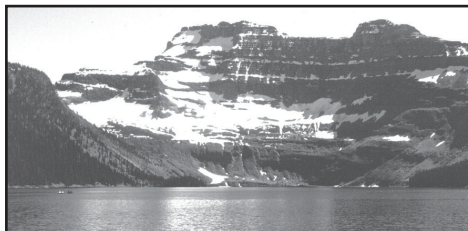
This Sub-Region encompasses the western half of Waterton Lakes National Park, and is centred on the 36-km long Tamarack Trail, which leads hikers through some spectacular country from the Akamina Highway to Red Rock Canyon. In addition to the promise of outstanding scenery, the trail passes close to several fine lakes, including Rowe, Lineham, Lone, Twin, and Goat. The Lineham Lakes basin can also be reached via a difficult and dangerous route from the Akamina Highway that includes a 100 m-high cliff. Red Rock Canyon is the northern terminus of the Tamarack Trail, as well as the Blakiston Creek access to Twin Lakes. Cameron Lake, at the western end of the Akamina Highway, is popular with anglers throughout the summer and serves as a starting point for short hikes to Akamina and Summit Lakes. After crossing Akamina Pass into British Columbia, prospective anglers can hike to Wall or Forum Lake in the Flathead Region.

Cameron Lake (NP)

Rainbow trout to 50 cm (1.5 kg)

Brook trout to 50 cm (1.5 kg)

Cameron Lake is set in a large subalpine basin, 15 km from Waterton Townsite along the Akamina Highway, and is one of the more popular fishing spots in Waterton Park. Both rainbow and brook trout are caught regularly, with most fish averaging 25-35 cm in length. Fishing from shore is usually not overly productive due to the size of the lake, although areas around the larger outlet creek and the many small inlet creeks hold fish. Fortunately for the perpetually shore-bound anglers, boat rentals are available. Trolling a fly or lure slowly behind a rowboat generally works well, and requires little skill on the part of the angler. Take note that even though the fishing season at Cameron Lake technically opens on the long weekend in May, the lake itself is often ice-bound well into June.



Cameron Lake